Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application. Please cancel Claim 4, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for applying pre-cut lengths of zipper transversely to a moving web of material at intervals spaced in the direction of movement of the web, comprising:

means for advancing a web of material in a predetermined direction;

a turret having a surface containing a plurality of circumferentially-spaced axially-extending grooves for receiving pre-cut lengths of zipper;

means for driving the turret to rotate about [[the]] an axis of ~~the cylinder~~ rotation;

the turret being positioned relative to the web so that [[its]] the axis of rotation extends transversely to the direction of advancement of the web and, upon rotation of the turret, the grooves in its surface are brought successively to a location in which pre-cut zipper lengths occupying the grooves are presented for attachment to the web, wherein grooves in the turret include a wider portion for receiving the slider on each pre-cut zipper length;

means for feeding pre-cut lengths of zipper comprising first and second interengageable profiles and a slider mounted thereon successively to the grooves of the turret at a loading location different from the attachment location;

means for causing removal of pre-cut zipper lengths from the grooves of the turret at the attachment location and for attachment of the zipper lengths to the web; and

[[means]] a slider mounting device for mounting sliders on the zipper so each length of zipper fed to the turret has a slider mounted thereon.

2. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, to which the ~~means for mounting the sliders on the zipper comprise~~ slider mounting device comprises a rotary ~~zipper~~ slider applicator.

3. (original) An apparatus according to claim 2, in which a knife is located between the slider applicator and the feeding location for cutting a continuous supply of zipper into the pre-cut lengths.

Claim 4 – (canceled)

5. (original) An apparatus according to claim 4, in which each wider portion extends to slightly beyond the mid-point of its respective groove from an insertion end thereof.

6. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the means for removal and attachment of the zipper lengths comprises a heated sealing bar which is movable towards and away from the film and is located adjacent the attachment location at the opposite side of the film to the turret.

7. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the slider-mounting means produces **a** zipper having its profiles disengaged from each other and the apparatus includes, between the slider-mounting means and the turret, a device for engaging the zipper profiles with each other, the device comprising a pair of rollers through the nip of which the zipper passes and which are arranged to engage the profiles of the zipper with each other and to separate from each other to allow the sliders to pass therebetween.

8. (original) An apparatus according to claim 7, in which the roller surfaces forming the nip are convex.

9. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, including a form-fill-seal machine arranged to receive the web with zippers attached and to form the web into bags and to fill the bags with a product, the zipper lengths forming reclosable fasteners of the bags.

10. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, including a machine arranged to receive the web with zippers attached and to form the web into bags for subsequent filling with a product, the zipper lengths forming reclosable fasteners of the bags.

11. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, including a means for forming the web with zippers attached into a roll for subsequent use in making empty bags or in a form-fill-seal machine.

12. (currently amended) A device for engaging the profiles of a slider zipper, ~~the device~~ further including a pair of rollers through the nip of which the zipper passes and which ~~are arranged to~~ engage the profiles of the zipper with each other and [[to]] separate from each other to allow the sliders to pass therebetween.

13. (original) A device according to claim 12, in which the roller surfaces forming the nip are convex.

14. (currently amended) A method of applying pre-cut lengths of zipper transversely to a moving web of material at intervals spaced in the direction of movement of the web, comprising

providing a web of material;

advancing the web in a predetermined direction past a rotary turret positioned to rotate about an axis transverse to the predetermined direction and having a surface containing a plurality of circumferentially-spaced axially-extending grooves for receiving pre-cut lengths of zipper;

the turret being positioned relative to the web so that, upon rotation, the zipper-receiving grooves thereof are brought successively to a zipper-application location in which zipper lengths occupying the grooves are presented for application to the web in directions extending transversely thereof;

feeding pre-cut lengths of zipper to successive zipper-receiving grooves of the rotary turret at a location different from the zipper-application location, each zipper length comprising first and second interengageable profiles and a slider mounted thereon, wherein grooves in the turret include a wider portion for receiving the slider on each pre-cut length of zipper;

rotating the turret to advance the zipper lengths successively from the receiving location to the application location; and

attaching the zipper length to the web at the zipper-application location.

15. (original) A method according to claim 14, in which the zipper lengths are attached to the web by means of a heated sealing bar which is movable towards and away from the film and is located adjacent the attachment location at the opposite side of the film to the turret.

16. (currently amended) A method according to claim 14, in which the sliders are mounted on the zipper lengths by means of a rotary ~~zipper~~ slider applicator.

17. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, in which the sliders are mounted on a continuous length of zipper which is subsequently cut into lengths.

18. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, in which the zipper profiles are disengaged during mounting of the sliders thereon and are re-engaged prior to feeding to the turret, re-engagement being by passing the zipper between the nip of a pair of rollers which are arranged to separate from each other to allow the sliders to pass therebetween.

19. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, including the further step of feeding the web with zippers attached to a form-fill-seal machine arranged to receive the web with zippers attached and to form the web into bags and to fill the bags with a product the zipper lengths forming reclosable fasteners of the bags.

20. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, including the further step of feeding the web with zippers attached to a machine for forming the web into bags for subsequent fitting with a product, the zipper lengths forming reclosable fasteners of the bags.

21. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, including the further step of forming the web with zippers attached into a roll for subsequent use in making empty bags or in a form-fill-seal machine.

Claims 22 and 23 – (canceled)